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Bad Guys?

Francis J. McNamara, executive director of the Hale Foundation:

The Post was incorrect in saying (editorial, July 20) that Philip Agee's CIA exposures are based on "on the job" information, while Louis Wolf's sources are "in the public domain."

On unchallenged evidence, the Supreme Court stated in *Haig v. Agee* that Agee goes to foreign countries, consults "local diplomatic circles" in them, and also "recruits collaborators and trains them in clandestine techniques designed to expose the 'cover' of CIA employees and sources." Releasing a list of alleged CIA agents in London in 1974, Agee said the list had been "compiled by a small group of Mexican comrades whom I trained [in discovery methods]. Similar lists of CIA people in other countries are already being compiled. . . . We invite participation."

His three books and two periodicals, CounterSpy and Covert Action Information Bulletin (CAIB)—all listing other contributors and helpers—were launched when his "on the job" knowledge was much outdated. Wolf co-edited Agee's second book and, when legal prob-

lems arose over Agee's work on the third, took over its co-editorship with three other CAIBers.

Agee and Wolf have the same sources—and they are not Agee's CIA memories or "public records" Wolf allegedly combs. Any legislation that criminalizes only exposures by ex-government employees, leaving the CAIB apparatus free to continue its work, will have no useful effect.

John Cavanaugh of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

The Post, by claiming that those who publish CIA names are "terrorists in spirit, and their true purpose is to destroy democracy," demonstrates that it has misinterpreted history, or learned nothing from it. A quick inventory discloses that it is the CIA that has "destroyed democracy" through coups and destabilization in Iran (1953); the Congo (1961); Brazil (1964); Guyana (1962-66); and Chile (1973), to name but a few. Most recently, we have learned that present CIA Director William Casey planned to topple Libya's Qaddafi along with another (undisclosed) Third World regime.

In the face of the covert onslaught, CounterSpy and CAIB provide an important service to Americans and citizens in developing countries struggling to protect democracy.